

## Message Text

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72

ACTION AF-06

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EA-06 NEA-09 FEA-01 AID-05 CEQ-01

CIAE-00 OFA-01 COME-00 DODE-00 EB-07 EPA-01 INR-07

IO-10 L-02 NSF-01 NSC-05 NSAE-00 PM-03 OES-03 SS-15

SP-02 /086 W

----- 008546

R 271520Z MAR 75

FM AMEMBASSY DAKAR

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 0368

AMEMBASSY BAMAKO

AMEMBASSY NOUAKCHOTT

AMEMBASSY OSLO

US LIAISON OFFICE PEKING 0020

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE DAKAR 1834

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EAID, EAGR, CH, SG, ML, MR

SUBJ: MANANTALI DAM: PRC INVOLVEMENT?

REF: A. DAKAR 3164, JUNE 11, 1974

B. NOUAKCHOTT 472, APRIL 24, 1974

C. DAKAR 3222, JULY 30, 1973

D. DAKAR 3342, AUGUST 3, 1973

1. LOCAL NEWSPAPER LE SOLEIL REPORTS MAURITANIAN RURAL DEVELOPMENT MINISTER MAMADOU DIOP, CURRENTLY PRESIDENT OF SENEGAL RIVER DEVELOPMENT ORGANIZATION (OMVS) COUNCIL OF MINISTERS HAD ANNOUNCED THAT MANANTALI DAM HAD "GREAT CHANCE OF REALIZATION." IN PRESS CONFERENCE AT DAKAR OMVS HEADQUARTERS MARCH 22, DIOP REPORTED THAT CHINESE EXPERTS HAD SUBMITTED RESULTS OF STUDY OF MANANTALI DAM TO OMVS 17 MARCH, AND SINCE THAT DATE OMVS AND CHINESE OFFICIALS HAD DISCUSSED PROJECT. IN RESPONSE TO QUESTION ABOUT WHEN WORK ON PROJECT MIGHT BEGIN, DIOP ADMITTED THAT PROBLEM OF LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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FINANCING WAS NOT DISCUSSED WITH CINESE TECHNICAL TEAM WHICH

HAD RESPONSIBILITY ONLY FOR TECHNICAL ASPECTS OF PROJECT.  
DIOP STATED THAT CHINESE STUDY CONFORMED TO OMVS PROGRAM  
AND HAD BEEN ADOPTED.

2. DIOP THEN SUMARIZED MANANTALI PROJECT AND GAVE PRICE TAG  
OF 49 BILLION CFA (233 MILLION DOLLARS AT CURRENT EXCHANGE  
RATE OF 210 CFA PER US DOLLAR). HE SAID CHINESE PROPOSAL  
CALLED FOR DAM WITH 9.5 BILLION CUBIN METER CAPACITY.  
DURING "TRANSITORY" PERIOD DAM WOULD IRRIGATE 100,000  
HECTARES. IN FINAL PHASE, DAM WOULD IRRIGATE 428,000 HECTARES  
FOR DOUBLE-CROPPING. DIOP SAID COMPANION DELTA DAM NOW HAD  
PRICE TAG OF 10 TO 11 BILLION CFA (47.5 MILLION DOLLARS).

3. DIOP NOTED THAT OMVS WOULD HOLD SECOND DONOR MEETING  
IN DAKAR IN MAY TO ATTEMPT OBTAIN COMMITMENT FROM VARIOUS  
INTERNATIONAL DONORS TO FINANCE PARTS OF OMVS RIVER  
DEVELOPMENT PROJECT. SIMILAR MEETING WAS HELD IN  
NOUAKCHOTT IN JULY 1974. DIOP IMPLIED LIBYA, UNITED ARAB  
EMIRATES, AND OTHER DONORS WHO HAD NOT PREVIOUSLY  
PARTICIPATED IN OMVS PROJECT WOULD MAKE COMMITMENTS AT  
THIS MEETING.

4. COMMENT: HARD NEWS IN DIOP'S PRESS CONFERENCE WOULD  
NOT SEEM TO MERIT ATTENTION GIVEN IT IN PRESS. DOES NOT  
APPEAR THAT CINESE HAVE YET AGREED TO FINANCE MANANTALI DAM,  
BUT PRESENTATION OF TECHNICAL STUDY MAY BE A STEP TOWARD  
EVENTUAL CHINESE INVOLVEMENT IN PROJECT. OMVS STATES, ON OTHER  
HAND, PERHAPS ARE ATTEMPTING TO PUSH CHINESE FOR FIRM  
COMMITMENT BY PREMATURE ANNOUNCEMENT. CLEARLY IT WOULD BE IN  
INTEREST OF OMVS STATES TO HAVE COMMITMENT FROM CHINESE FOR  
MANANTALI PRIOR TO ASKING OTHER DONORS' SUPPORT FOR RELATED  
PROJECT IN MAY DONORS' MEETING. RDO WILL TAKE ADVANTAGE OF VISIT  
OF ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STUDY TEAM FROM WASHINGTON WHICH WILL BE  
MEETING WITH OMVS OFFICIALS TO ATTEMPT DETERMINE CURRENT STATUS  
OF CHINESE INTENTIONS.

DECONTROL UPON RECEIPT.  
AGGREY

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** FINANCE, DAMS, PROGRAMS (PROJECTS), SENEGAL RIVER  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 27 MAR 1975  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** johnsorg  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1975DAKAR01834  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** N/A  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Film Number:** D750108-0530  
**From:** DAKAR  
**Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Image Path:**  
**ISecure:** 1  
**Legacy Key:** link1975/newtext/t19750311/aaaaajfl.tel  
**Line Count:** 98  
**Locator:** TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM  
**Office:** ACTION AF  
**Original Classification:** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 2  
**Previous Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Previous Classification:** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** 75 DAKAR 3164, 75 JUNE 11, 75 1974  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Authority:** johnsorg  
**Review Comment:** n/a  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 09 JUN 2003  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review History:** RELEASED <09 JUN 2003 by CunninFX>; APPROVED <13 NOV 2003 by johnsorg>  
**Review Markings:**

Margaret P. Grafeld  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
05 JUL 2006

**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Referrals:** n/a  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** MANANTALI DAM: PRC INVOLVEMENT?  
**TAGS:** EAID, EAGR, CH, SG, ML, MR  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
**Markings:** Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 05 JUL 2006